

AMENDMENT

Please amend the application, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A combination of at least one agrochemically active compound having cationic functional groups with an anionic polymer, ~~wherein the anionic polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polymethacrylates, polyvinyl acetates, polycarbonates, polyesters, polyaspartates, phospholipids, polyssaccharides and silicates,~~ with formation of electrostatic interactions between these components for the controlled release of the active compound.

2. (Currently amended) The combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active compound is selected from the group consisting of herbicides, fungicides, insecticides, growth regulators, safeners, acaricides, molluscicides and nematocides, ~~in particular from the group consisting of herbicides, safeners and plant growth regulators.~~

3. (Currently amended) The combination as claimed in claim 2, wherein the herbicides are selected from the group consisting of glufosinate, glyphosate, paraquat, diquat, difenzoquat, metilsulfat, mepiquat, chromequat and bialaphos and ~~also~~ quaternized forms, ~~which are known per se,~~ of these active compounds.

4. (Currently amended) The combination as claimed in claim 3, wherein the polymer is soluble, dispersible and/or emulsifiable in water and/or an organic solvents, ~~preferably in polar protic and/or polar aprotic organic solvents and/or water, most preferably in water,~~ and has an absorption rate or penetration rate of <50% in 24 h.

5. (Previously presented) The combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein the molecular weight of M_N of the polymer is ≥ 500 , and the polymer is employed in a weight ratio to the active compound of from about 0.001:1 to about 1:0.001

6. (Currently amended) The combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polymer has functional groups selected from the group consisting of carboxylate, sulfonate, sulfate and ~~or~~ phosphonate groups, ~~preferably from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polymethacrylates, sulfonated lignin, sulfated lignin, polyvinyl acetate, polycarbonates, polyesters, polyaspartates, phospholipids, polysaccharides and silicates.~~

7. (Currently amended) A formulation, comprising [[a]] the combination as claimed in claim 1 and at least one further component selected from the group consisting of further agrochemically active compounds, surfactants, fertilizers and customary adjuvants.

8. (Currently amended) The formulation as claimed in claim 7, wherein the further agrochemically active compound is ~~wherein a combination of a herbicide and an oligo or polymer is present together with~~ a safener and/or growth regulator.

9-12 (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) A method for controlling harmful organisms, comprising ~~which comprise~~ applying to said organisms [[a]] the combination according to claim 1.

14. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein the harmful organisms are harmful plants.

15. (Currently amended) A method for controlling harmful organisms, which comprises applying to said organisms the [[a]] formulation according to claim [[9]] 7.

16. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein the harmful organisms are harmful plants.

17. (Currently amended) A process for preparing ~~a formulation~~ the combination as claimed in claim 1, which comprises combining the active compound ~~by customary processes which are known per se, preferably by dissolving, stirring or mixing,~~ with the ~~a suitable~~ polymer, and ~~introducing this combination into the formulation, optionally, if appropriate~~ with other active compounds, adjuvants or ~~and~~ additives.

18. (Currently amended) A process for preparing a formulation as claimed in claim 7 [[8]], which comprises combining the active compound ~~by customary processes which are known per se, preferably by dissolving, stirring or mixing,~~ with ~~the~~ a suitable polymer, and ~~introducing this combination into the formulation, if appropriate~~ with other the further agrochemically active compounds, surfactants, fertilizers, or adjuvants and additives.

19. (Previously presented) The combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein the molecular weight of M_N of the polymer is about 1,000 to 1,000,000, and the polymer is employed in a weight ratio to the active compound of from about 0.1:1 to 1:0.1.

20. (Previously presented) The combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein the molecular weight of M_N of the polymer is \geq or equal to 500, and the polymer is employed in a weight ratio to the active compound of from about 0.1:1 to 1:0.01.

21. (Previously presented) A process for suppressing antagonistic interactions during the application of agrochemically active compounds for controlling harmful plants, which process comprises applying the combination as claimed in claim 1 to the harmful plants.

22. (Previously presented) A process for increasing crop selectivity during the application of one or more agrochemically active compounds for controlling harmful plants, which comprises applying the combination as claimed in claim 1 to the harmful plants.

23. (Previously presented) A combination comprising glufosinate and a lignin sulfonate, wherein there is the formation of electrostatic interactions between these two components.

24. (Currently amended) A method for ~~supressing~~ suppressing antagonistic interactions during the application of agrochemically active compounds for controlling harmful plants, which process comprises applying the combination as claimed in claim 23 to the harmful plant.

(Please add the following claims:)

--25. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 1, wherein the anionic polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polymethacrylates, polyvinyl acetates, polycarbonates, polyesters, polyaspartates, phospholipides, polyssaccharides and silicates.

26. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 4, wherein the organic solvent is polar protic or polar aprotic.

27. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 4, wherein the polymer is soluble, dispersible and/or emulsifiable in water.

28. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 6, wherein the functional groups are selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polymethacrylates, sulfonated lignin, sulfated lignin, polyvinyl acetate, polycarbonates, polyesters, polyaspartates, phospholipids, polysaccharides and silicates.

29. (New) The process as claimed in claim 17 wherein the combining is by dissolving, stirring, or mixing.

30. (New) The process as claimed in claim 18 wherein the combining is by dissolving, stirring, or mixing.--